

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An optical amplifying and relaying system comprising:
an up and a down optical transmission line opposing each other; [[,]]
amplifiers each provided on each of the optical transmission lines; [[,]] and
monitoring light signal folding-back lines connected between the two optical
transmission lines and each including an optical coupler for taking out a monitoring light
signal led to one ~~the own~~ optical transmission line and [[a]] wavelength selective
reflecting means for transmitting the monitoring light signal received from the one ~~own~~
optical transmission line by folding-back transmission to the opposite optical transmission
line,

wherein the optical amplifying and relaying system further comprises variable
optical attenuators each provided between each optical coupler and the associated
wavelength selective reflecting means.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Original) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1,
wherein the optical couplers are each provided on the optical transmission line on the
input side of each optical amplifier.

4-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) An optical amplifying and relaying system comprising:
an up and a down optical transmission line opposing each other; [[,]]
amplifiers each provided on each of the optical transmission lines; [[,]] and
monitoring light signal folding-back lines connected between the two optical
transmission lines and each including an optical coupler for taking out a monitoring light
signal led to one ~~the own~~ optical transmission line and [[a]] wavelength selective

reflecting means for transmitting the monitoring light signal received from the one own optical transmission line by folding-back transmission to the opposite optical transmission line,

wherein variable optical attenuators are each provided between each optical coupler and the associated wavelength selective reflecting means, and the monitoring light signal folding-back lines are each provided on the input side of the optical amplifier on the one own optical transmission line.

9-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein the wavelength selective reflecting means is provided preceding to and subsequent to the variable optical attenuator.

16. (Currently amended) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein an optical isolator is provided as an intermediate stage in each monitoring light signal folding-back line, and each wavelength selective reflecting means includes ~~uses~~ an optical fiber grating.

17. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein the wavelength selective reflecting means is disposed at least one of preceding to and subsequent to the variable optical attenuator.

18. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein an optical isolator is provided as an intermediate stage in each monitoring light signal folding-back line.

19. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein each wavelength selective reflecting means includes an optical fiber grating.

20. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1, wherein the wavelength selective reflecting means is provided preceding to and subsequent to the variable optical attenuator.
21. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1, wherein an optical isolator is provided as an intermediate stage in each monitoring light signal folding-back line, and each wavelength selective reflecting means includes an optical fiber grating.
22. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1, wherein wavelength selective reflecting means is provided at least one of preceding to and subsequent to the variable optical attenuator.
23. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1, wherein an optical isolator is provided as an intermediate stage in each monitoring light signal folding-back line.
24. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 1, wherein each wavelength selective reflecting means includes an optical fiber grating.
25. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 3, wherein the variable optical attenuators each supply a predetermined attenuation amount to the monitoring light signal based on a state of each optical amplifier.
26. (New) The optical amplifying and relaying system according to claim 8, wherein the variable optical attenuators each supply a predetermined attenuation amount to the monitoring light signal based on a state of each optical amplifier.